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Communal Property Act and the Hutterian
Brethren. 1



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THE COMMUNAL PROPERTY ACT

and

THE HUTTERIAN BRETHREN

Compiled with the aim of explaining something of the history of THE COMMUNAL PROPERTY ACT with particular reference to the HUTTERIAN BRETHREN because although the law in this matter applies equally to all Albertans, in practice it has affected only the Hutterian Brethren in past years as they were the only Albertans who acquired their land for communal use and enterprise.

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APPENDICES

- "A" The Communal Property Act
- "B" Names the colonies chronologically by date established and shows each colony's size by acreage.
- "C" Catalogues the colonies by number, giving their address and their municipality.
- "D" Arranges the colonies geographically by municipality.
- "E" The latest (1970) Report of the Communal Property Control Board as given in the Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for 1970.
- "F" Map - Land Limitation Zones for Hutterite Colonies in Alberta as mentioned in the CPCB report.
- "G" The Education of Hutterite Children in Alberta (Chapter 4 - Education - from the Report of the Hutterite Investigation Committee, Government of Alberta, September 1959).

- 1. The Commission shall be constituted by the Government of India.
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THE COMMUNAL PROPERTY ACT

The Communal Property Act as given in the following pages, directs that the Government of Alberta control the acquisition of land for communal use by any colonized group in Alberta. Its provisions apply equally to all Albertans, but in past years they have affected only the Hutterian Brethren as Hutterites were the only Albertans who abrogated their personal property rights to a colony and in that manner acquired their land for communal use and enterprise.

The Act was first enacted by the Alberta Legislature in 1947. An Investigating Committee reviewed the Act in 1959 and in 1960 an important amendment changed a number of its provisions and provided for its administration by an appointed board, the Communal Property Control Board, under the direction of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

On December 8, 1971, after almost another 12 years, the Honourable D. J. Russell, Minister of Municipal Affairs, announced that with the effluxion of time and with the advent of other Albertans also adopting a life-style employing communal use of land for their enterprises, it was again appropriate for the Government of Alberta to plan another review of the provisions of the Act.

In common with other land use legislation, such as The Planning Act which imposes municipal control of land use through zoning, for example, every section of The Communal Property Act is to be critically examined by the government and tested against public policy for communal land-use.

Subsequently, the Lieutenant-Governor in his speech from the Throne on the opening March 2 of the first session of the 17th Legislature said that a select legislative committee of MLA's will be formed to investigate alternatives to The Communal Property Act. Mr. Russell has said the study by the legislative committee will be given priority so that colony applications do not accumulate as new colonies or extensions to existing colonies will not be considered in the interim.

THE COMMUNAL PROPERTY ACT

CHAPTER 59

Short title	1. This Act may be cited as <i>The Communal Property Act</i> . [R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 1]
Definitions	2. In this Act, (a) "Board" means the Communal Property Control Board established pursuant to this Act; (b) "colony" (i) means a number of persons who hold land or any interest therein as communal property, whether as owners, lessees or otherwise, and whether in the name of trustees or as a corporation or otherwise, (ii) includes a number of persons who propose to acquire land to be held in such manner, and (iii) includes Hutterites or Hutterian Brethren and Doukhobors; (c) "communal property" means (i) land held by a colony in such a manner that no member of the colony has any individual or personal ownership or right of ownership in the land, and each member shares in the distribution of profits or benefits according to his needs or in equal measure with his fellow members, and (ii) land held by a member of the colony by personal ownership or right of ownership or under a lease, if the land is used in conjunction with and as part of other land held in the manner described in subclause (i). [R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 2; 1960, c. 16, s. 2]
Administration of Act	3. The Minister of Municipal Affairs is charged with the administration of this Act. [R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 3]
Communal Property Board	4. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may establish a board to be known as the Communal Property Control Board, which shall be composed of not more than three members appointed from time to time by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. (2) The members of the Board hold office during pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor in Council. (3) During the absence of a member of the Board the remaining members may exercise the powers of the Board. [1960, c. 16, s. 3; 1962, c. 8, s. 2]
Composition of Board	5. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall designate the chairman of the Board from among the members thereof, and in the case of the illness, absence or other disability of the chairman, the member earliest named in the order appointing the members and present, or the member holding the longest appointment to the Board and present, shall act in the stead of the chairman. (2) The chairman of the Board shall summon the members to all meetings of the Board and preside thereat. [1960, c. 16, s. 3]
Board secretary	6. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may appoint a secretary for the Board and may authorize the employment by the Board of such clerical assistance as may be considered necessary. (2) The secretary of the Board (a) shall keep a record of all proceedings conducted before the Board or any member thereof, (b) shall have the custody and care of the records and documents of the Board, (c) shall ensure that all orders and recommendations made by the Board are drawn pursuant to the directions of the Board, properly authenticated and filed, and (d) shall obey all rules and directions made or given by the Board in respect of his duties or office. [1960, c. 16, s. 3]

1. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the bylaws of the corporation.

2. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to elect and remove the officers and directors of the corporation.

3. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to declare dividends on the stock of the corporation.

4. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to borrow money for the corporation and to mortgage the property of the corporation.

5. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to lease or convey the real estate of the corporation.

6. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the articles of incorporation of the corporation.

7. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the certificate of incorporation of the corporation.

8. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the charter of the corporation.

9. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the constitution of the corporation.

10. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the laws of the corporation.

11. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the regulations of the corporation.

12. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the rules of the corporation.

13. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the customs of the corporation.

14. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to make and alter the traditions of the corporation.

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Remun-
eration

7. (1) The members of the Board and the secretary are entitled to be reimbursed for all expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties, including all reasonable travelling and subsistence expenses.

(2) The members of the Board who are not employees of the Public Service of the Province shall be paid such remuneration for their services on the Board as the Lieutenant Governor in Council may fix.

(3) The operating expenses of the Board shall be paid out of the General Revenue Fund of the Province.

[1960, c. 16, s. 3]

Extent of
holdings
limited

8. (1) Subject to this Act, no colony or any branch thereof existing on the first day of May, 1947, and no person on its behalf shall at any time purchase, agree to purchase, attempt to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire any lands or enter into any contract or agreement that may directly or indirectly result in the vesting of property in land or the right of possession of any land in a colony or in any trustee or other person on behalf of a colony, or that would have the effect of increasing the holdings of land of the colony beyond its holdings on the first day of March, 1944.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) prevents a colony from purchasing and taking title to any land that was held under lease by or on behalf of the colony and actually used by the colony on the first day of March, 1944, and was still so held and used on the first day of May, 1947.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where since the first day of March, 1944, any land owned by or on behalf of a colony has been or is taken, or has been or is transferred by the colony, for irrigation purposes or for any other public purpose, the colony may acquire, by purchase, lease or otherwise, lands not exceeding in acreage the land so taken or transferred, if the total land held by the colony does not exceed its holdings on the first day of March, 1944.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3), where a major portion of the land in any quarter-section held by a colony is taken for irrigation or other public purposes, or is exchanged or disposed of under subsection (5), the Board, in its discretion, may permit the colony to acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise a full quarter-section in substitution therefor.

(5) If a colony owns or leases an isolated or other parcel of land it desires to exchange for other land more accessible, suitable or convenient for its purposes, the colony may sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of the isolated or other parcel of land and may purchase, lease or otherwise acquire the desired land, if by so doing the land held by the colony does not exceed its authorized holding.

(6) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where on the first day of March, 1944, a colony held less than sixty-four hundred acres of land, such colony may acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise, such lands, being lands adjacent to its present holdings, as when added to its present holdings will not increase the total acreage beyond sixty-four hundred acres. [R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 4; 1960, c. 16, s. 4]

Regulations

9. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations,

(a) dividing the Province into zones,

(b) classifying the zones according to the nature of the soil, climatic conditions, amount of precipitation and average land values, and

(c) designating the number of acres that a colony established after the first day of May, 1951, may acquire in any zone or class of zones, which acreage may vary from zone to zone.

(2) If of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest to do so, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may authorize a colony to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire any designated parcel or parcels of land notwithstanding that thereby the land held by the colony will exceed its authorized holdings under the other provisions of this Act.

[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 5]

7. (1) The Commission shall have the right to require the production of any document or information in its possession or control, or to which it has access, for the purpose of enabling it to carry out its functions.

(2) The Commission shall have the right to require the production of any document or information in the possession or control, or to which it has access, of any person, for the purpose of enabling it to carry out its functions.

(3) The Commission shall have the right to require the production of any document or information in the possession or control, or to which it has access, of any person, for the purpose of enabling it to carry out its functions.

8. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Commission shall have the right to require the production of any document or information in its possession or control, or to which it has access, for the purpose of enabling it to carry out its functions.

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Conditions
under which
colonies may
acquire land

10. No colony and no branch of a colony that exists or existed outside the Province and no person acting on behalf of such a colony or branch thereof as trustee or otherwise, shall

- (a) purchase, agree to purchase, attempt to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire any land, or
- (b) enter into any contract or agreement that may directly or indirectly result
 - (i) in the vesting of title or the right to possession of land in such a colony or in any trustee or other person on behalf of such a colony, or
 - (ii) in the acquisition of land by such a colony or any branch thereof,

without the consent of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 6]

Establish-
ment of new
colony

11. Without first obtaining the consent of the Lieutenant Governor in Council thereto, no colony and no branch of a colony and no person acting on behalf of a colony as trustee or otherwise, shall, for the purpose of establishing a new colony, purchase, lease or enter into any agreement that would directly or indirectly result in the vesting of title or the right of possession of land in a colony, or in any trustee or other person on behalf of a colony.

[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 7; 1960, c. 16, s. 5; 1962, c. 8, s. 3]

Colonies
established
after May
1, 1947

12. No land exceeding in area the number of acres that a colony may hold in any zone as designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council under section 9 shall be acquired by a colony established in the Province on or after the first day of May, 1947. [R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 9; 1960, c. 16, s. 6]

Colonies
established
after May
1, 1947

13. (1) Where a colony was established in the Province on or after the first day of May, 1951, and authorized to acquire land in more than one zone, the colony shall not acquire land that increases its total holdings beyond the maximum acreage permitted to be held in any one of the zones in which the colony is authorized to acquire land.

(2) Where the acreage to which a colony is entitled by regulations made pursuant to section 9 is more than eighty acres, but less than one hundred and sixty acres, the Board may, notwithstanding the regulations, authorize the colony to acquire a full quarter section.

[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 10; 1960, c. 16, s. 7]

Sale of land
to colony

14. (1) No person by himself or by his agent shall sell, agree to sell, attempt to sell, lease, agree to lease, or otherwise dispose to a colony land that would

- (a) increase the holdings of land of the colony in contravention of section 8, or
- (b) vest the title or possession of land in the colony in contravention of sections 10 or 11.

(2) Any transfer, agreement or lease contravening subsection (1) is against public policy and void.

(3) Where any money is paid pursuant to a void transfer, agreement or lease,

- (a) the money is forthwith recoverable as a debt owing by the person to whom it was paid to the person by whom or on whose behalf it was paid, and
- (b) if the person by whom or on whose behalf the money was paid fails to take proceedings to recover it after being requested to do so by the Board, the chairman of the Board may, in the name of and on behalf of that person, take all proceedings necessary to recover the money.

(4) Where a colony or person acting on behalf of a colony acquires title to or possession of land in contravention of section 10 or 11,

- (a) title to or possession of the land is forthwith recoverable by the person entitled thereto, and
- (b) if that person fails to take proceedings to recover title or possession after being requested to do so by the Board, the chairman of the Board may, in the name of and on behalf of that person, take all proceedings necessary to recover title to or possession of the land.



(5) Any costs incurred by the chairman of the Board in proceedings taken under this section are payable by the person in whose name the proceedings are taken.

[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 11; 1969, c. 17, s. 2]

Legal
description
of lands

15. (1) A colony shall, upon the written request of the Board, furnish to it, in such form as it may require, a statement showing by legal description all lands owned, leased, or in any way operated by the colony.

(2) The Board may summon the officers of a colony to a hearing to inquire into the terms under which the colony owns, leases, or in any way operates any land.

[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 12; 1960, c. 16, s. 8]

Application
for acquisition of
land

16. (1) A colony shall apply by written notice to the Board for leave to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire any land.

(2) An application under subsection (1) shall set out by legal description all lands which the colony proposes to acquire.

(3) On receipt of an application under subsection (1) where the granting of the application will not result in the establishment of a new colony, the Board shall make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine as a matter of fact

(a) if the colony has the right to acquire the land under this Act, and

(b) whether or not it is in the public interest that the application be granted,

and the Board shall make an order granting or refusing the application in whole or in part.

(4) At the hearing of the application the Board has all the powers of a commissioner appointed under *The Public Inquiries Act*.

(5) A person or colony not satisfied with the decision of the Board may appeal to a judge of the district court having jurisdiction in the district in which the land or part thereof is situated.

(6) A copy of the notice of appeal shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court of the judicial district in which the land or part thereof is situated and a copy shall be served on the Board.

(7) The Board shall within seven days of service of the notice of appeal on it transmit to the clerk of the court all documents and material in its hands relating to the application, and on receipt of the documents and material, the clerk of the court shall apply to a judge of the district having jurisdiction to fix a time and place for the hearing of the appeal and shall notify the Board and the appellant and such other person as the judge may direct of the time and place so fixed.

(8) The judge on the hearing of the appeal may affirm or reverse the finding of the Board or make such other disposition of the appeal as he deems proper and the decision of the judge is final and there shall be no further appeal.

[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 13; 1960, c. 16, s. 9; 1960, c. 80, Schedule, 5; 1962, c. 8, s. 4; 1969, c. 17, s. 3]

Notice of
application

17. (1) Where the granting of any application made under section 16, subsection (1) would result in the establishment of a new colony the Board shall cause public notice to be given of such application by advertisement inserted in two issues of a newspaper published or circulated in the locality of the lands cited in the application.

(2) The advertisement shall

(a) describe by legal description the lands included in the application,

(b) identify the colony responsible for making the application, and

(c) give notice that any person desiring to submit written evidence supporting or opposing the application may do so by filing such evidence with the Board within thirty days of the last publication of the advertisement.



(3) When the time allowed for the submission of written evidence has expired the Board shall examine the evidence thus submitted and may hold a hearing or make such other inquiries as it deems necessary to determine whether or not the granting of the application would be in the public interest, giving due consideration to

- (a) the location of the lands applied for and the location of existing colonies,
- (b) the geographical location of the lands intended for communal use in relation to the lands not so used, and
- (c) any other factors which the Board may deem relevant to the application.

(4) After completing its investigation the Board shall submit a report to the Minister as to the Board's recommendations in the matter of granting or refusing the application and the reasons therefor.

(5) After consideration of the report of the Board, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may withhold the consent required under section 11 or may consent to the acquisition of land for and the establishment of the new colony, as to the Lieutenant Governor in Council seems proper in the public interest, irrespective of the recommendation of the Board thereon.

(6) Where an application has been dealt with by the Board under this section and the consent of the Lieutenant Governor in Council as required under section 11 has been withheld, no further application in respect of the same lands or any portion thereof may be made within a period of three years from the date of the previous application.

[1960, c. 16, s. 10; 1962, c. 8, s. 5]

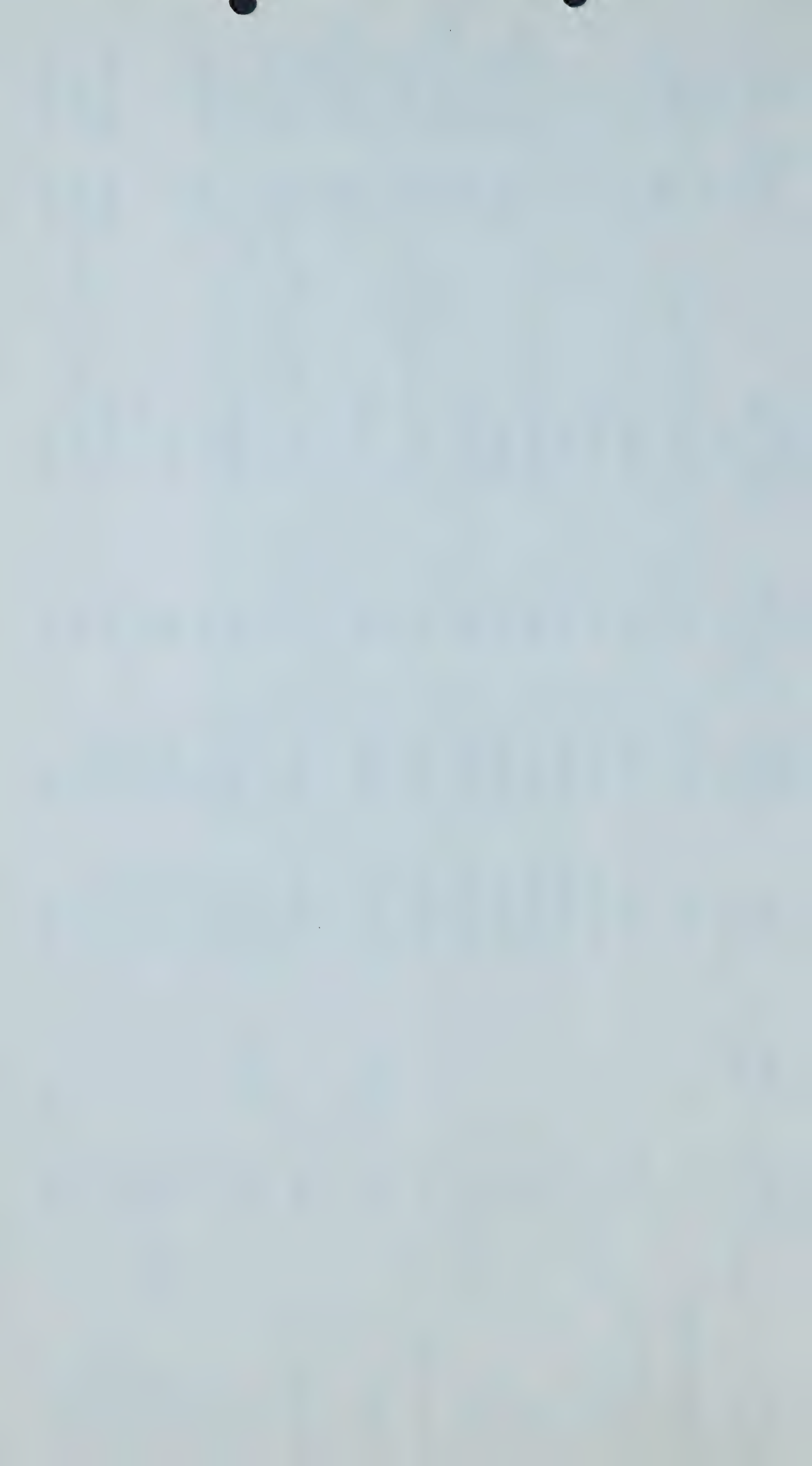
**Offences and
penalties**

18. A person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Act is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months, or to both fine and imprisonment.

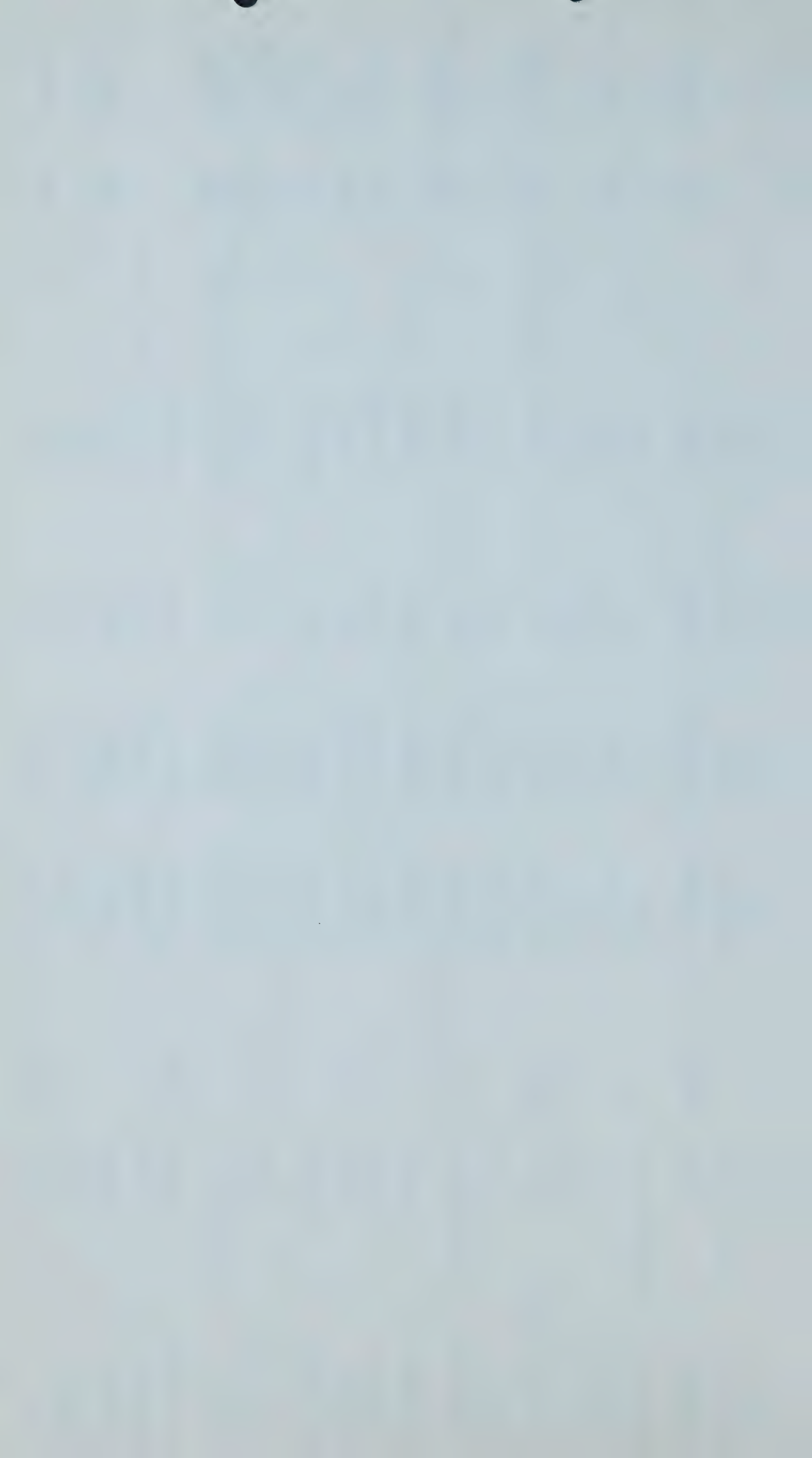
[R.S.A. 1955, c. 52, s. 14; 1960, c. 16, s. 10]



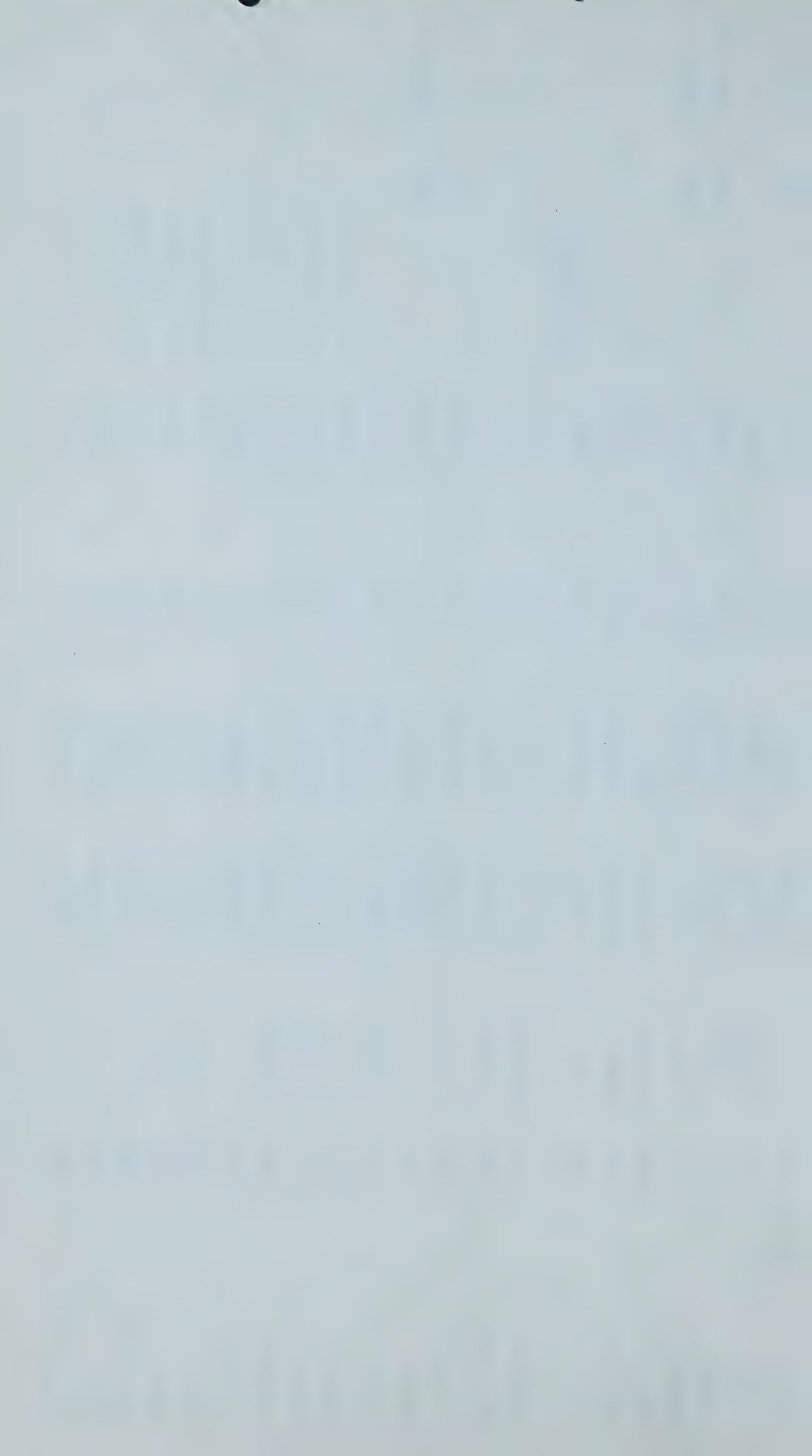
FILE NO.	COLONY	DATE ESTABLISHED	LEASE	TITLE	PRESENT ACREAGE	1971 INCREASE	MAXIMUM ACREAGE PERMISSIBLE	YR. COL. DIVIDED	NEW COLONY
1	Cayley	Prior to 1944	400	5,120	5,520	- 240	6,400	1956 1968	Hussar Holden
2	Crystal Springs	1937		7,520.71	7,520.71	Nil	6,400 (O.C. 712/67)	1953 1969	Acadia Roseglen
3	East Cardston	1918		6,631.13	6,631.13	605	6,400		
4	Elmspring	Prior to 1944		7,007.81	7,007.81	Nil	7,007.81		
5	Ewelme	" " 1944		6,364.13	6,364.13	Nil	6,400		
6	Felger	" " 1944		6,601.50	6,601.50	Nil	6,601.50		
7	Ferrybank	1948		5,784.54	5,784.54	310	6,400	1949 1962	Sand Hills Warburg
8	Granum	Prior to 1944		8,416.99	8,416.99	Nil	8,352.68	1949 1963	Holt Spring Point
9	Huttenville	" " 1944		6,716.25	6,716.25	Nil	6,716.25 (O.C. 133/63)	1952 1964	Rosedale Castor
10	Lakeside	" " 1944	1,406.30	8,787.67	10,193.97	Nil	10,633.93	1943 1955 1970	Pine Hill Springcreek Starland
11	McMillan	" " 1944		9,593.16	9,593.16	Nil	9,440 (O.C. 1476/52)	1954 1969	Handhills Parkland
12	Miami	" " 1944	361.76	9,662.53	10,024.29	Nil	10,024.29		
13	Milford	" " 1944		8,879.45	8,879.45	Nil	8,773	1951	Winnifred
14	Monarch	1942		5,371.20	5,371.20	Nil	6,400		
15	New Elm	Prior to 1944		7,579.99	7,579.99	Nil	7,670.40		
16	New Rockport	" " 1944		7,804.29	7,804.29	Nil	7,501.46	1954	Springside
17	Springvale	" " 1944		8,534.55	8,534.55	Nil	8,534.55 (O.C. 667/54)	1948	Camrose
18	New York	" " 1944	1,760	4,640	6,400	480	6,400	1953	Scottford



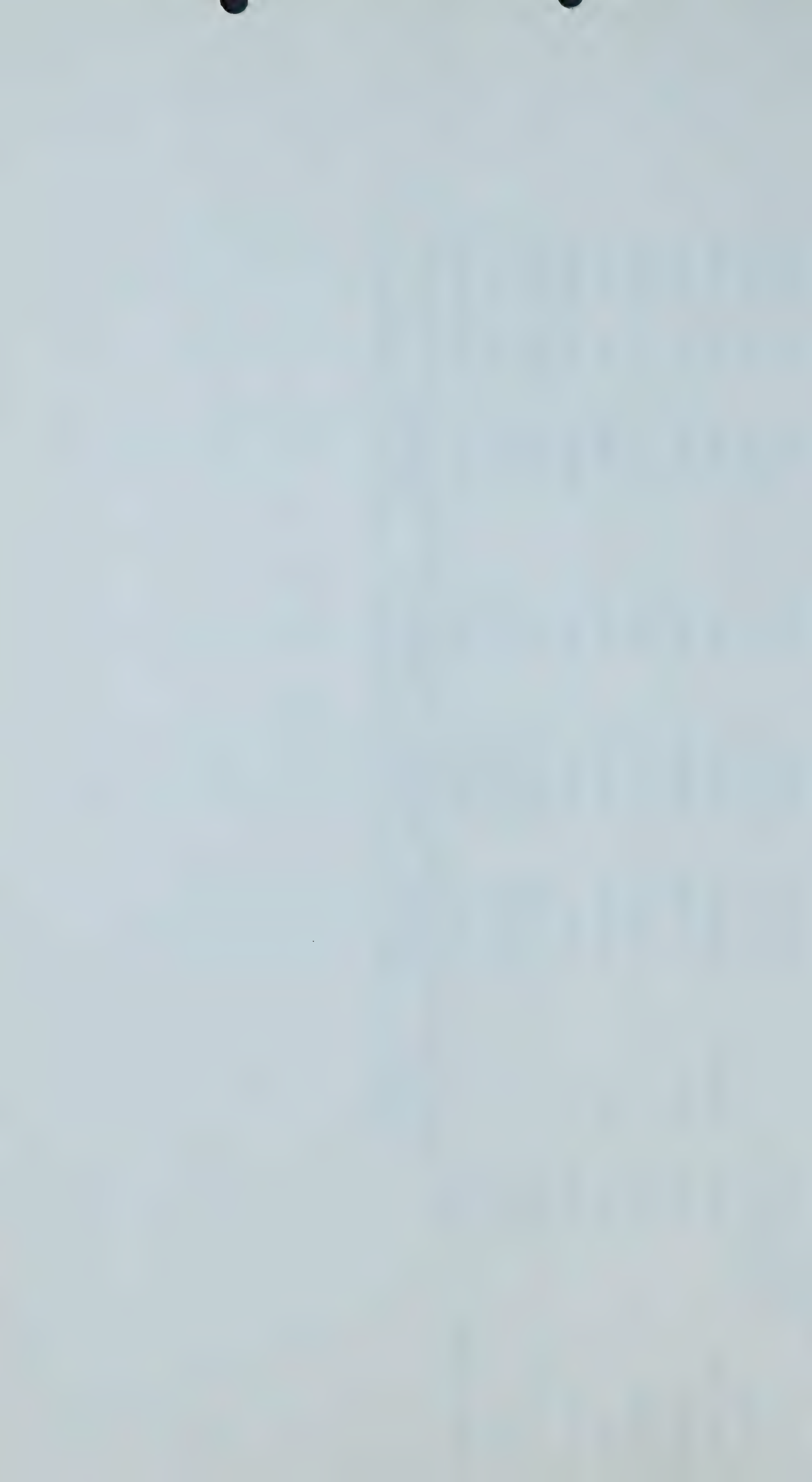
20	Old Elm	Prior to 1944	520	6,601.75	7,127.75	Nil	6,957.65 (O.C. 731/55)	1961	Newell
21	Pincher Creek	" " 1944		7,014.84	7,014.84	Nil	6,400		
22	Pine Hill	" " 1944	1,012.93	8,118.62	9,131.55	Nil	10,111.82		
23	Cluny	1948	560	5,789.13	6,349.13	Nil	6,400	1969	Leedale
24	Riverside	Prior to 1944		7,840	7,840	800	10,240		
25	Rocklake	1934	1,388	6,495	6,495	Nil	6,400		
26	Rockport	Prior to 1944		8,460.20	9,848.20	Nil	9,848.20	1948 1970	Newdale Brant
27	Beiseker	" " 1944		7,036	7,036	Nil	6,716		
28	Crossfield	" " 1944	640	6,390.70	6,390.70	Nil	6,400	1968	Smoky Lake
29	Rosebud Redland	" " 1944	1,497	5,280	5,920	640	6,400		
30	Newell	1961		5,410.74	6,907.74	Nil	6,907.74 (O.C. 1416/70)	1949 1962	Tschetter Athabasca
31	Stahlville	Prior to 1944		10,246.55	10,246.55	Nil	10,240		
32	Standoff	" " 1944		9,932.53	9,932.53	Nil	9,932.53	1948 1957	Red Willow Huxley
33	Sunnyside	" " 1944		5,983.64	5,983.64	Nil	6,400		
34	Thompson	" " 1944	480	9,222.20	9,222.20	640	9,185.31	1961	Bow City
35	West Raley	" " 1944		4,292.48	4,292.48	Nil	6,400	1954	O.B.
36	Red Willow	1948		6,020.23	6,020.23	Nil	6,400	1953 1971	Veteran Turin
37	Wilson	Prior to 1944		6,381.09	6,381.09	Nil	6,400	1962	Wildwood
38	Wolf Creek	" " 1944	240	8,484.68	8,484.68	Nil	8,484.68 (O.C. 531/68)	1952 1961	Pibroch Waterton
39	Big Bend	" " 1944		9,530.91	9,820.91	Nil	9,660.91		
40	Camrose	1948		7,167.94	7,167.94	Nil	7,167.94 (O.C. 1373/70)	1957	Ribstone
41	Newdale	1948		5,486.01	5,486.01	Nil	6,400		
42	Holt	1949	640	7,344.82	7,344.82	Nil	10,240		
				9,110.67	9,750.67	194	10,240	1960	Mixburn



44	Sand Hills	1949	7,718.85	7,718.85	Nil	7,247.19	{O.C. 1668/54} {O.C. 1692/60}	1970	Morinville
45	Winnifred	1951	11,834.64	15,668.74	-	15,360	(O.C. 1046/60)	1962	South Bend
46	Brocket (Raley 1944)	1948	50	2,498.52	2,548.52	Nil	6,400		
47	Pibroch	1952		6,450.48	6,450.48	160	6,400	1967	Vegreville
48	Rosedale	1952	1,517.60	12,584.20	14,101.80	Nil	15,360		
49	Scotford	1953	789.97	5,280.23	6,070.20	Nil	6,400	1968	Plain Lake
50	Veteran	1953	1,280.85	13,534.29	14,815.14	Nil	15,360	1967	Pleasant Valley
51	Acadia	1953	1,111.96	12,053.51	13,165.47	Nil	15,360		
52	Springside	1954	1,800	13,730.50	15,530.50	1,800	15,360		
53	O.B.	1954	72	7,492.37	7,564.37	320	6,400	(O.C. 714/64) (O.C. 1825/71)	
54	Handhills	1954	2,745.15	12,393.22	15,138.37	Nil	15,360		
55	Springcreek	1955	299.12	5,119.10	5,418.22	Nil	10,240		
56	Ribstone	1957		7,821.60	7,821.60	Nil	10,240		
57	Huxley	1957		5,041.95	5,041.95	Nil	6,400	1969	Valleyview
58	Mixburn	1960	156.97	7,594.58	7,751.55	Nil	10,240		
59	Waterton	1961		7,437.81	7,437.81	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 830/65)	
60	Bow City	1961	81.20	14,007.25	14,088.45	Nil	15,360	(O.C. 1458/61)	
61	Athabasca	1962	702.44	5,384.20	6,086.64	Nil	10,240	(O.C. 86/62)	
62	South Bend	1962		9,538.14	9,538.14	Nil	10,240	(O.C. 1312/62)	
63	Wildwood	1962	471.90	4,591.76	5,063.66	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 1703/62)	
64	Warburg	1962	476	5,276	5,752	156	10,240	(O.C. 1742/62)	
65	Spring Point	1963		4,640.55	4,640.55	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 697/63)	
66	Castor	1964		10,322.53	10,322.53	Nil	10,240	(O.C. 1360/64)	
67	Pleasant Valley	1967		5,269.78	5,269.78	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 1417/67)	



69	Holden	1968	1,654	4,310	5,964	1,280	6,400	(O.C. 2176/67)
70	Plain Lake	1968		5,357.68	5,357.68	338.40	6,400	(O.C. 219/68)
71	Smoky Lake	1968		5,885.27	5,885.27	730.35	6,400	(O.C. 220/68)
72	Roseglan	1969		9,722.34	9,722.34	Nil	15,360	(O.C. 424/69)
73	Valley View	1969	128.50	5,983.69	6,112.19	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 712/69)
74	Leedale	1969	640	3,324.05	3,964.05	160	6,400	(O.C. 1801/69)
75	Parkland	1969		6,414.97	6,414.97	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 2221/69)
76	Brant	1970	960	6,690.20	7,650.20	Nil	6,400	(O.C. 50/70)
77	Starland	1970		9,600	9,600	- 640	10,240	(O.C. 1905/70)
78	Morinville	1970		3,304.78	3,304.78	272	6,400	(O.C. 1995/70)
79	Turin	1971		6,205.09	6,205.09	6,205.09	15,360	(O.C. 1565/71)
80	Verdant Valley	1971		6,720	6,720	6,720	10,240	(O.C. 1971/71)
			29,677.75	588,864.88	618,543.03	20,880.41	685,235.84	



No.	Colony	Address	Municipality
1	Cayley	Cayley	Mun. Dist. of Foothills #31
2	Crystal Springs	Magrath	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
3	East Cardston	Cardston	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
4	Elmspring	Warner	County of Warner #5
5	Ewelme	Glenwood	Mun. Dist. of Willow Creek #26
6	Fellger	Lethbridge	County of Lethbridge #26
7	Ferrybank	Ponoka	County of Ponoka #3
8	Granum	Granum	Mun. Dist. of Willow Creek #26
9	Huttermville	Magrath	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
10	Lakeside	Cranford	County of Lethbridge #26
11	McMillan	Cayley	Mun. Dist. of Foothills #31
12	Miami	New Dayton	County of Warner No. 5
13	Milford	Raymond	County of Warner #5
14	Monarch	Monarch	Mun. Dist. Willow Creek #26
15	New Elm	Magrath	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
16	New Rockport	New Dayton	County of Warner #5
17	Springvale	Rockyford	County of Wheatland #16
18	New York	Maybutt	County of Lethbridge #26
19	O.K.	Raymond	County of Warner #5
20	Old Elm	Magrath	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
21	Pincher Creek	Pincher Creek	Mun. Dist. of Pincher Creek #9
22	Pinehill	Red Deer	County of Red Deer #23
23	Cluny	Cluny	County of Wheatland #16
24	Riverside	Glenwood	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
25	Rocklake	Wrentham	County of Lethbridge #26
26	Rockport	Magrath	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
27	Beiseker	Beiseker	Mun. Dist. of Rocky View #44
28	Fairview Hutterian Brothren of Cross- field	Crossfield	Mun. Dist. of Rocky View #44
29	Rosebud	Redland	County of Wheatland #16
30	Rowell	Bassano	County of Newell #4
31	Stahlville	Rockyford	County of Wheatland #16
32	Standoff	Fort Macleod	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
33	Sunnyside	Warner	County of Warner #5
34	Thompson	Glenwood	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
35	West Raley	Cardston	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6
36	Willow Creek	Red Willow	County of Stettler #6
37	Wilson	Lethbridge	County of Lethbridge #26
38	Wolf Creek	Stirling	County of Warner #5
39	Woolf	Woolford	Mun. Dist. of Cardston #6



No.	Colony	Address	Municipality
40	Camrose	Camrose	County of Camrose #22
41	New Dale	Queenstown	County of Vulcan #2
42	Holt	Irma	Mun. Dist. of Wainwright #61
43	Tschetter	Irricana	Mun. Dist. of Rocky View #44
44	Sandhills	Beiseker	County of Wheatland #16
45	Winnifred	Winnifred	County of Forty Mile #8
46	Brocket	Pincher Creek	Mun. Dist. of Pincher Creek #9
47	Pibroch	Pibroch	Mun. Dist. of Westlock #92
48	Rosedale	Etzikom	County of Forty Mile #8
49	Scotford	Scotford	Mun. Dist. of Strathcona #20
50	Veteran	Veteran	Special Area #4
51	Acadia	Acadia Valley	Mun. Dist. of Acadia #34
52	Springside	Duchess	County of Newell #4
53	O.B.	Marwayne	County of Vermilion River #24
54	Handhills	Hanna	Special Area #2
55	Springcreek	Walsh	Imp. Dist. #1
56	Ribstone	Ribstone	Mun. Dist. of Wainwright #61
57	Huxley	Huxley	Mun. Dist. of Kneehill #48
58	Mixburn	Mannville	County of Minburn #27
59	Waterton	Pincher Creek	Mun. Dist. of Pincher Creek #9
60	Bow City	Brooks	County of Newell #4
61	Athabasca	Athabasca	County of Athabasca #12
62	South Bend	Alliance	County of Flagstaff #29
63	Wildwood	Wildwood	Imp. Dist. #14
64	Warburg	Warburg	County of Leduc #25
65	Spring Point	Fort Macleod	Mun. Dist. of Pincher Creek #9
66	Castor	Castor	County of Paintearth #18
67	Pleasant Valley	Clive	County of Lacombe #14
68	Vegreville	Lavoy	County of Minburn #27
69	Holden	Holden	County of Beaver #9
70	Plain Lake	Two Hills	County of Two Hills #21
71	Smoky Lake	Smoky Lake	County of Smoky Lake #13
72	Roseglen	Hilda	Imp. Dist. #1
73	Valley View	Torrington	Mun. Dist. of Kneehill #48
74	Leedale	Leedale	County of Lacombe #14
75	Parkland	Parkland	Mun. Dist. of Willow Creek #26
76	Brant	Brant	County of Vulcan #2
77	Sterland	Morrin	Mun. Dist. of Sterland #47
78	Morinville	Alcomdale	Mun. Dist. of Sturgeon #90
79	Turin	Turin	Mun. Dist. of Lethbridge #26
80	Verdant Valley	Drumheller(?)	Mun. Dist. of Sterland #47



ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES WITH HUTTERITE COLONIES

<u>COUNTIES</u>			
<u>County</u>	<u>Colony</u>	<u>Colony Number</u>	<u>Colony Address</u>
Vulcan #2	New Dale Brant	# 41 # 76	Queenstown Brant
Ponoka #3	Ferrybank	# 7	Ponoka
Newell #4	Newell Springside Bow City	# 30 # 52 # 60	Bassano Duchess Brooks
Warner #5	Elmspring Miami Milford New Rockport O.K. Sunnyside Wolf Creek	# 4 # 12 # 13 # 16 # 19 # 33 # 38	Warner New Dayton Raymond New Dayton Raymond Warner Stirling
Wetzel #6	Willow Creek	# 36	Red Willow
Winnifred #8	Winnifred Rosedale	# 45 # 48	Winnifred Etzikom
Holden #9	Holden	# 69	Holden
Athabasca #12	Athabasca	# 61	Athabasca
Smoky Lake #13	Smoky Lake	# 71	Smoky Lake
Clive #14	Pleasant Valley Leedale	# 67 # 74	Clive Leedale
Rockyford #16	Springvale Cluny Rosebud Stahlville Sandhills	# 17 # 23 # 29 # 31 # 44	Rockyford Cluny Redland Rockyford Beiseker



<u>County</u>	<u>Colony</u>	<u>Colony Number</u>	<u>Colony Address</u>
Pointeclair #18	Castor	# 66	Castor
Scottham #20	Scotford	# 49	Scotford
Two Hills #21	Plain Lake	# 70	Two Hills
Camrose #22	Camrose	# 40	Camrose
Red Deer #23	Pinehills	# 22	Red Deer
Million River #24	O.B.	# 53	Marwayne
Warburg #25	Warburg	# 64	Warburg
Lethbridge #26	Fellger Lakeside New York Rocklake Wilson Turin	# 6 # 10 # 18 # 25 # 37 # 79	Lethbridge Cranford Maybutt Wrentham Lethbridge Turin
Minburn #27	Minburn Vegreville	# 58 # 68	Mannville Lavoy
Staff #29	Southbend	# 62	Alliance

MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

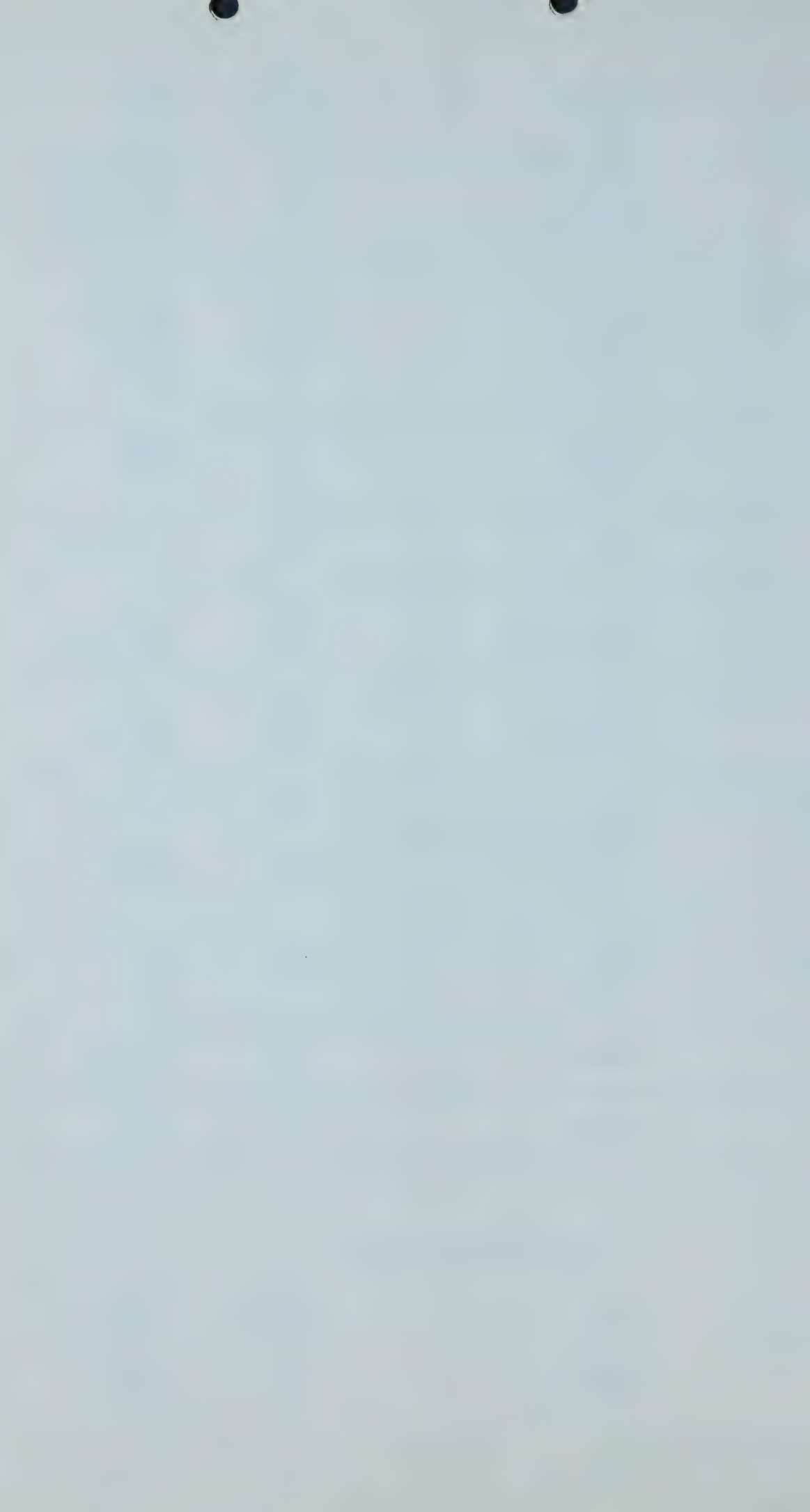
<u>Municipal District</u>	<u>Colony</u>	<u>Colony Number</u>	<u>Colony Address</u>
Cardston #6	Crystal Springs East Cardston Hutterville New Elm Old Elm Riverside Rockport Standoff Thompson West Raley Big Bend	# 2 # 3 # 9 # 15 # 20 # 24 # 26 # 32 # 34 # 35 # 39	Magrath Cardston Magrath Magrath Magrath Glenwood Magrath Fort Macleod Glenwood Cardston Woolford



<u>Municipal District</u>	<u>Colony</u>	<u>Colony Number</u>	<u>Colony Address</u>
Pincher Creek #9	Pincher Creek	# 21	Pincher Creek
	Brocket	# 46	Pincher Creek
	Waterton	# 59	Pincher Creek
	Spring Point	# 65	Fort Macleod
Hwy Creek #26	Euclame	# 5	Glenwood
	Granum	# 8	Granum
	Monarch	# 14	Monarch
	Parkland	# 75	Parkland
Hills #31	Cayley	# 1	Cayley
	McMillan	# 11	Cayley
Acadia #34	Acadia	# 51	Acadia Valley
Land #47	Morrin	# 77	Morrin
	Verdant Valley.	# 80	Drumheller (?)
Hill #48	Huxley	# 57	Huxley
	Valley View	# 73	Torrington
y View #44	Beiseker	# 27	Beiseker
	Fairview Hutterian Brethren of Crossfield	# 28	Crossfield
	Tschetter	# 43	Irricana
wright #61	Holt	# 42	Irma
	Ribstone	# 56	Ribstone
eon #90	Morinville	# 78	Alcomdale
ock #92	Pibroch	# 47	Pibroch

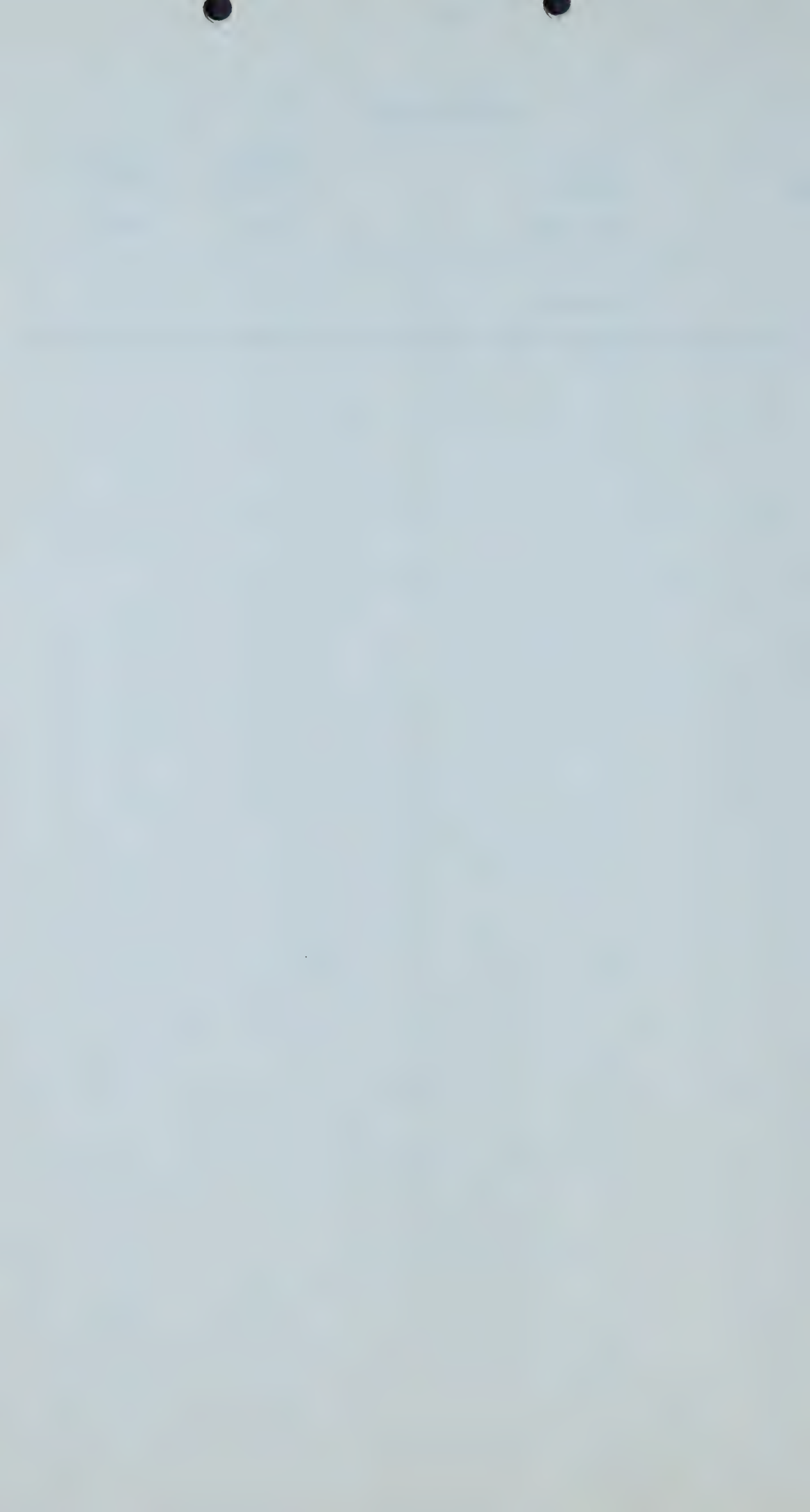
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

<u>Improvement District</u>	<u>Colony</u>	<u>Colony Number</u>	<u>Colony Address</u>
1	Roseglen	# 72	Hilda
	Springcreek	# 55	Walsh
14	Wildwood	# 63	Wildwood



SPECIAL AREAS

<u>Special Area</u>	<u>Colony</u>	<u>Colony Number</u>	<u>Colony Address</u>
No. 2	Handhills	# 54	Hanna
No. 4	Veteran	# 50	Veteran



COMMUNAL PROPERTY CONTROL BOARD

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The administration of The Communal Property Act under the direction of the Minister of Municipal Affairs includes:

- establishing and maintaining a record of the lands held by the Hutterite colonies in Alberta when the Act came into force as of May 1st, 1947, and for each colony established since that date. Each file includes the legal description and acreage of lands held by the colony together with a record of all Board Orders, correspondence and other matters connected with the land transactions of the colony.
- ensuring that the maximum acreage restrictions imposed by the Act are adhered to by the colonies. The accompanying map shows land limitation zones established for this purpose.
- under Section 13 of the Act, receive an application from any colony seeking to acquire additional lands, and where the application does not involve the establishment of a new colony, determine whether or not the acquisition of the land by the colony is in accordance with the Act and in the public interest. The Board may grant or refuse the application as it deems proper. If the Board refuses the application by reason of the acreage restrictions, the colony may reapply by way of a petition to the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
- where an application will result in the establishment of a new colony, process the application in accordance with the provisions of Section 14, and the policy that not more than two colonies are permitted in the average rural municipality. Carry out any investigations and submit a report with a recommendation to the Minister.

ACTIVITIES

The year has been a very active one for the Board, due not only to the work involved in the administration of The Communal Property Act, but also because it included a large number of inquiries from universities, schools, and individuals from across Canada and the U.S.A. seeking information regarding our legislative restrictions in respect to Hutterite colonies, the manner in which colony expansion is being controlled in Alberta, and also material relating to the internal organization of the colonies and their communal way of life.

A total of six applications for leave to establish new colonies were processed in 1970. Three applications received the approval of the Executive Council, two were rejected and a decision on the sixth is pending. Statistics as to the acreage involved in the applications and of the lands in



the province held under communal ownership are set out in the accompanying table.

The Board dealt with thirteen applications by existing colonies for additional acreage. All these applications were approved. The total acreage involved was 16,615 acres.

Problems connected with the growth of the colonies have lessened considerably within the last five years due to a better public understanding of the government's policy in the matter of controlling colony expansions. This policy has also led colonies into better communication between themselves and the general public.

E. F. BREACH,
Chairman.

Hutterite Colonies in Alberta — 1970

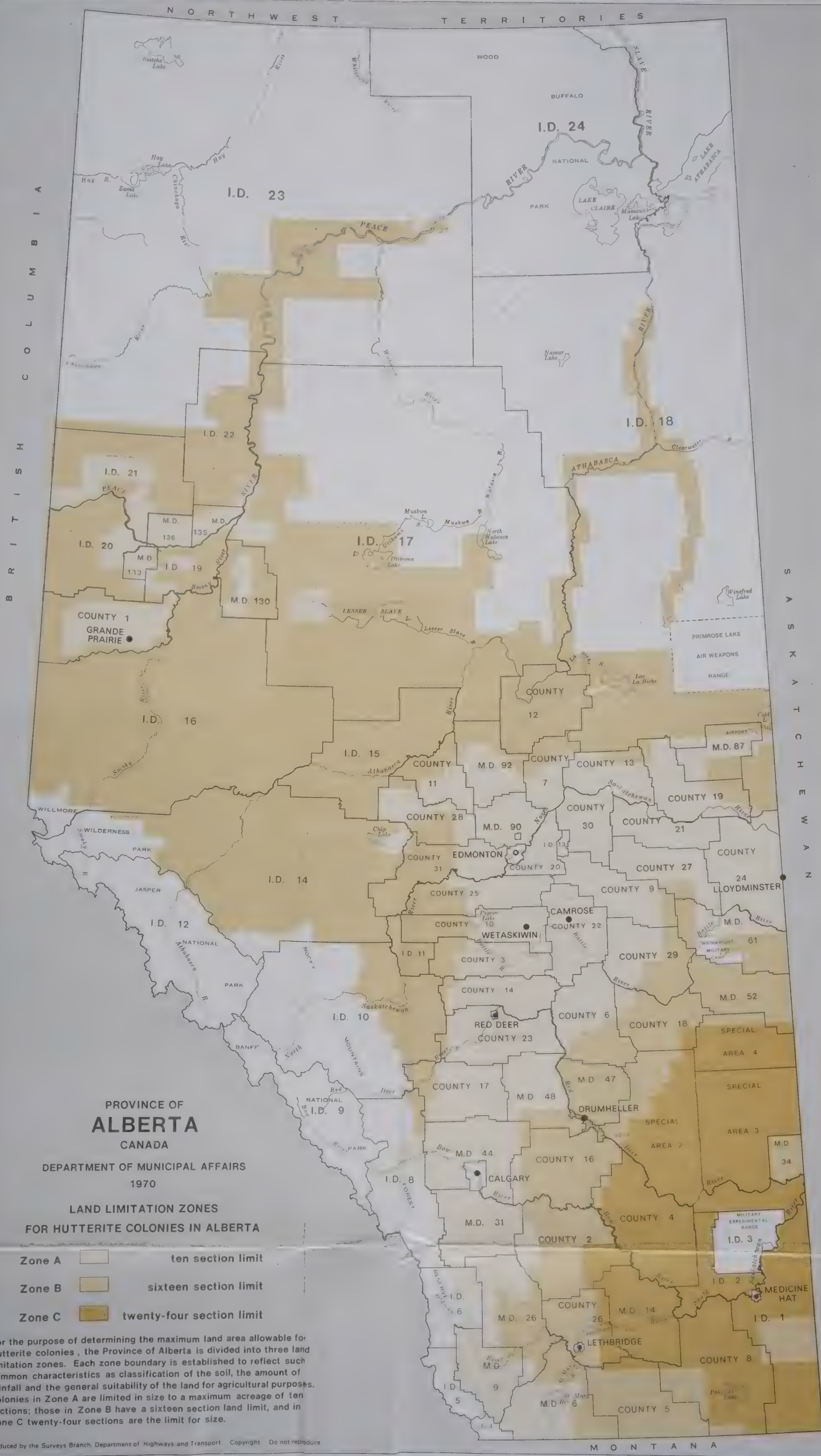
Number of Hutterite colonies as at December 31st, 1969	75	
Acreage held by colonies as at December 31st, 1969		569,399.60
New colonies approved in 1970	3	
Acreage acquired by 3 new colonies		11,637.78
Applications by existing colonies for additional acreage in 1970	13	
Total acreage acquired in 11 applications		16,615.99
Total acreage as at December 31st, 1970		597,653.37

Additional Statistical Information

Number of Hutterite colonies in Alberta south of Township 24 (Calgary)	43	
Number of colonies north of Township 24	35	
Hutterite population in Alberta, approximately		7,000

(Hutterite population in Alberta has remained relatively static during the past six years due to the number of Alberta colonies that have established satellite colonies in Saskatchewan.)

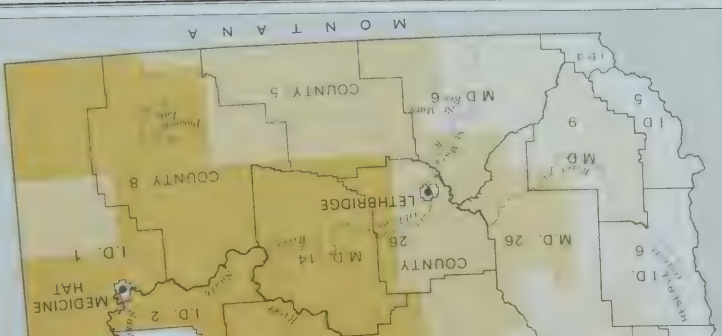




For the purpose of determining the maximum limitation zones, the Province of Alberta is divided into three zones. Each zone boundary is established on the basis of the general characteristics of the land and the general suitability of the land for agriculture. Colonies in Zone A are limited in size to a maximum of sixteen sections; those in Zone B have a maximum of twenty-four sections; and those in Zone C have a maximum of thirty-two sections.

Produced by the Surveys Branch, Department of Highways and Transportation

- Zone A
- Zone B
- Zone C



CHAPTER 4- EDUCATION -THE EDUCATION OF HUTTERITE CHILDREN IN ALBERTAINTRODUCTORY

SECTION 2, PARAGRAPH (e) OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE READS AS FOLLOWS:

"TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE EXISTING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES ESTABLISHED FOR HUTTERITE COLONIES ARE SATISFACTORY, ESPECIALLY IN THE MATTER OF INSTRUCTION IN THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP".

This question directed to an ethnic group other than the Hutterites might be considered as quite innocuous; but the fundamental differences underlying their way of life in comparison with those of other ethnic groups propounds a problem fraught with difficulties not easy of solution.

If measures can be devised that will neither compromise the religious values of the Hutterites nor the educational requirements of the Province, then the problem will be resolved.

After a long history of persecution in many lands, the Hutterites feel they have reason to be suspicious of the society in which they live and stoutly maintain their right to an educational system that will retain the distinctive Hutterite social, religious and cultural values.

Heretofore they have shown themselves very reluctant to co-operate with a system which threatens their values of non-resistance, communal property, the refusal to take oaths or hold public office and their German derived language and culture.

The problem as it appears to them, is that if their children are compelled to attend public schools they will be subject to indoctrination of values of the world outside the colony, which they regard as sinful. They fear they will be exposed to the doctrine of private ownership of goods which leads to greed and materialistic values. They fear also that they will be inculcated with the patriotic attitudes of the country leading to war; and they will acquire the habits and tastes of the outside community, leading to a gradual submersion of the Hutterite way of life in the culture of the larger society.



As the ultimate aim must be to look forward to a time when these people are prepared to enter more fully into the life of the dominant society, it can be readily seen that the task of leading them towards this goal is indeed a sensitive one.

The Committee is inclined to believe that this end can be better accomplished by persuasion than by legislation and their recommendations are based on this alternative.

EARLY EDUCATION OF CHILDREN

While visiting colonies in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, the Committee was able to gain an accurate knowledge of the educational services maintained in Hutterite areas.

Beginning at the age of two and one-half years, Hutterite children attend the colony kindergarten or "Kleina Schule" for the greater part of each day. This practice frees the mothers to enable them to make their contribution of work in the gardens, poultry houses, communal kitchens, common dining rooms, dairy and shops.

Under the "school mother" and her assistants the children eat their meals, take rest and play periods. They also learn rhymes or jingles, simple stories and short passages of scripture.

There is some variation, but in most cases the children leave the kindergarten and enter public school at six years of age. Both before and after public school hours they receive instruction from a German teacher in the German language, the scriptures and Hutterian doctrine.

The program of studies prescribed by the Department of Education for Alberta is being taught in the colony schools and eventually the pupils attain a working knowledge of both the German and English language.

Between the ages of five and fifteen, the average child learns by rote many verses of scripture and Hutterian doctrine. No studies designed to develop the intellect are offered or encouraged.

This dual system of education has a serious affect on scholarship in the colony public school courses. One or more hours of study per day under the German teacher leaves the pupils with only a limited amount of time and energy to devote to the day school courses. Counter-indoctrination by the colony minister, the German teacher and parents, further retard the work of the day school.



Pupils are promptly removed from school at the age of fifteen regardless of ability or grade attained.

No loyalty to the country in which they live is acknowledged by the Hutterites, as responsibilities of citizenship are not accepted even by those born in the country.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SERVICE FOR HUTTERITE CHILDREN

This service is provided and administered by the Board of the School Division or the council of the County in which the colony is located.*

Rejection of citizenship precludes the election of a local board so the Minister of Education has no choice but to appoint the Superintendent of Schools for the Division or County to the position of official trustee. The powers of this officer are rather limited but the local authority may delegate additional authority and usually does.

The cost of operating the public school in a colony is borne by government grants paid to the local authority for the support of all schools in the area, and from the land taxes collected throughout the area for school and municipal purposes. Colony farm lands are subject to this taxation.

CHART NO. 1

COST OF OPERATION OF HUTTERITE SCHOOLS IN WHEATLAND SCHOOL DIVISION, NO. 40, 1957.

Colony School	Provincial Grant Received for Hutterite Schools	School Taxes paid by Hutterites	Total Grants and Taxes Received	Operating Expenses	Difference
New Springvale	\$ 2,862.15	\$ 1,515.24	\$ 4,377.39	\$ 5,010.76	\$ 633.37 (deficit)
lines	2,862.15	2,979.85	5,842.00	4,829.80	surplus over \$1,012.20 (expenses)
osebud River	2,840.15	2,708.70	5,548.85	4,765.40	surplus over \$783.45 (expenses)
ayre	2,554.15	1,802.55	4,356.70	4,014.60	surplus over \$342.10 (expenses)

Excess of receipts over cost of
operation of the four colony
schools = \$1,504.38.

* From now on the Divisional Board and the County Council will be referred to as "the local authority".



In the event of the government grants and the taxes collected for school purposes failing to meet the cost of operating the schools, an additional levy of taxes may be made with the consent of the Minister of Education.

Although the Hutterian Brethren are taxed to operate their schools, it should be remembered that they all share the provincial government grants made available to all schools operating under the Department of Education.

The Superintendent of Schools for the Division or County is responsible for seeing that the Alberta Course of Studies is followed and for bringing the standard of learning up to a satisfactory level.

A one-room school, usually built by the colony, is located on the border of the settlement. Subject to ratification by the local authority, a qualified teacher is appointed by the Superintendent.

The school building also serves as the colony church. This practice is a source of difficulty as the Brethren remove the flag, decorations and educational material displayed in the classroom lest they should distract the attention of worshippers during daily services. Teachers agree that this is a hindrance and would be happier if a separate church could be provided.

So much for the system, - how well does it operate?

Teachers and Superintendents agree that the progress of pupils in colony schools from Grade IV up does not compare too favorably with the scholarship in public schools generally. This was borne out by observations made in the schools visited by our Committee. Some comparative studies have been made that support this opinion.

Last November (1958) the enrolments of twenty-four colony schools, chosen at random, were studied. The following chart gives the names of these districts and shows the grade enrolments:



CHART NO. 2.

GRADES IN HUTTERITE COLONY SCHOOLS

HUTTERITE DISTRICTGRADE ENROLMENT

		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
3747	East Elm	4	3	4	3	3	5	5	4	0
3748	Old Elm	4	3	3	3	0	4	1	1	1
3749	New Elm	4	1	1	0	2	4	2	2	1
3755	Standoff	1	3	2	0	4	4	1	0	0
3756	East Cardston	6	4	3	0	0	3	4	1	3
3757	West Raley	3	3	2	3	3	3	0	3	1
3919	Harris Ranch	2	4	3	2	5	4	0	1	0
3768	Sayre	5	5	4	3	6	5	0	0	0
3769	Rosebud River	2	6	3	6	6	4	5	0	0
4735	Springvale	0	11	7	5	5	5	3	4	0
3789	Hines	2	4	9	5	8	4	2	1	0
3733	Allenby	4	2	2	2	2	4	4	0	1
4204	Hoffman	2	6	2	3	3	0	2	2	0
4672	Rock Lake	5	4	4	10	5	0	0	1	0
4192	Miami	3	4	2	3	6	4	7	5	0
4515	Elmspring	3	3	3	5	3	1	2	0	0
4830	Ridge	1	3	0	3	3	2	5	0	0
4673	Chin Lake	2	2	3	1	2	2	3	0	1
2153	Wolf Creek	4	2	0	2	3	0	3	1	0
3734	Foch	1	4	3	2	5	2	0	2	0
4068	Dunbar	5	7	5	5	6	5	3	5	0
4205	O.K. Colony	6	6	5	7	4	7	3	3	0
4769	New Rockport	0	5	3	3	4	5	3	5	0
2448	Dinant	8	5	8	5	5	0	0	0	0
		77	100	81	81	93	77	58	41	8

Total .. 616

It will be noticed that the average number of pupils per school was just under twenty-six. Grade enrolments held up well in the first five grades but thereafter dwindled rapidly. No pupils went beyond Grade IX indicating that they were removed from school as soon as they became fifteen years of age or passed the Grade IX Departmental examinations - which happens rarely.



Seriously as the drop-outs are in the public school system, they cannot compare with those in the junior high school grades of the Hutterite schools.

A STUDY OF DISTRIBUTION OF PUPILS BY SEX, GRADE AND AGE IN
HUTTERITE SCHOOLS OF ALBERTA, JUNE 1958.

Superintendents having Hutterite schools within their areas were asked to submit these reports. The Secretary of the Committee consolidated them to form Chart No. 3 shown hereunder.

CHART NO.3
DISTRIBUTION OF PUPILS BY SEX, GRADE, AND AGE LAST BIRTHDAY

	Sex	5 yrs. and under	6 yrs.	7 yrs.	8 yrs.	9 yrs.	10 yrs.	11 yrs.	12 yrs.	13 yrs.	14 yrs.	15 yrs.	16 yrs.	17 yrs.	18 yrs.	19 yrs.	20 yrs.	21 yrs.	*Total
FIRST YEAR IN GRADE ONE	Boys		31	26	4	1													62
	Girls		28	20	7														55
REPEATED GRADE I. FROM LAST YEAR	Boys			13	3		1												17
	Girls		1	13	3	1													18
GRADE II.	Boys			17	22	17	4	2											62
	Girls		2	18	23	19	2		2		2								68
GRADE III.	Boys			1	18	24	15	9	1										68
	Girls				17	21	24	3			1								66
GRADE IV.	Boys					7	22	26	3	1									59
	Girls					17	21	18	1	1	1								59
GRADE V.	Boys						11	13	33	13	5								75
	Girls					3	8	22	17	5	3	1							59
GRADE VI.	Boys							7	15	15	15								52
	Girls							9	8	18	5								40
GRADE VII.	Boys								6	16	16	3							41
	Girls								11	11	21	2							45
GRADE VIII.	Boys									4	19	15	3						41
	Girls								2	1	17	9							29
GRADE IX.	Boys										3	2							5
	Girls										2								2
GRADE X.	Boys											0							—
	Girls											0							—
GRADE XI.	Boys												0						—
	Girls												0						—
GRADE XII.	Boys																		—
	Girls																		—
TOTALS BY SEX	Boys		31	57	47	49	53	57	58	49	58	20	3						482
	Girls		31	51	50	61	55	52	41	36	52	12	—						441
*GRAND TOTALS			62	108	97	110	108	109	99	85	110	32	3						923



The enrolments in the squares with the darker boundary lines indicate the pupils who have made average progress to-date. Six hundred and ninety-nine pupils shown in the squares to the right of the diagonal line of squares refer to pupils who are retarded one or more grades and the figures in the squares to the left of the diagonal line of squares with darkened borders, totalling eight, show the number of pupils who are accelerated.

CHART NO. 4

HUTTERITE PUPILS' PROGRESS REPORT

Retarded pupils	-	699	-	75.73%
Average pupils	-	216	-	23.40%
Accelerated pupils	-	8	-	.87%

CHART NO. 5

A COMPARISON OF PROGRESS OF HUTTERITES
WITH ALL SCHOOL CHILDREN IN 1958.

	* HUTTERITE PUPILS	ALL SCHOOL PUPILS (Including Hutterites)
Percentage of retarded pupils	75.73%	35.01%
Percentage of average pupils	23.40%	45.38%
Percentage of accelerated pupils	.87%	19.61%

There is something to be desired with respect to the progress of the public school children as a whole but it is infinitely better than that of the Hutterite pupils.

Many submissions were made to the Committee urging the closing of Hutterite schools and the complete integration of the pupils into our centralized school system.

The Committee is convinced, however, that this approach to the problem would be strongly opposed by the Brethren and would only lead to them taking advantage of The Department of Education Act, being Chapter 95, R.S.A., 1955, which makes provision for the establishment of private schools.

* Information regarding Hutterite pupils was gained from reports received from Superintendents. (Chart No. 4). Information with regard to public school pupils came from the 1958 Annual Report of the Department of Education.



THE KNILL STUDY
OF
THE HUTTERIAN COLONIES WITHIN
THE COUNTY OF WARNER NO. 5.

Mr. William Douglas Knill, a graduate in Education of the University of Alberta, 1950, undertook a descriptive study of the schools operating in the Hutterite Colonies located in the County of Warner, Alberta. This study included the testing of Hutterian students using the California Achievement Tests Battery and comparing the results with the national norms and also with the results, subject by subject, and grade by grade with similar tests administered to 223 unselected non-Hutterite pupils. The latter tests were given by the principal of the Warner centralized school a year earlier.

Mr. Knill has the following to say with respect to the results obtained by grades four, five and six in both groups of children:

"The achievement of Hutterian children of the County of Warner, who were in grades four, five and six at the time of this study can be assessed in quantitative terms. Grade four Hutterite students exceed the American national norms established by the California Achievement Tests Battery, but the grade five and six students do not meet this standard. The median score for grade four students exceeds the national norm by two months, the grade five students' median is exceeded by the national norm by five months and the grade six students' median is exceeded by the national norm by nine months."

"A comparison of the median scores of these Hutterian students with the median scores of the same grades in the centralized schools of the County of Warner shows the latter more advanced. The grade four students' median score is exceeded by ten months; the grade six students' median score is exceeded by eleven months."

"A further study of the test data leads to the conclusion that the Hutterian students fall behind in their achievement between grades four and six. The median achievement level drops seven months between grades four and five, and it drops four months between grades five and six."

This study would appear to verify the statements made much earlier to the effect that the standard of achievement on the part of Hutterite pupils is below that of pupils educated in Alberta schools outside of Hutterite colonies. It also indicates that the scholarship of Hutterite pupils with the exception of those in Grade IV, is below the standard norms of the California tests.

It can be concluded from the foregoing that the native ability of the Hutterite children is quite normal.

A STUDY MADE BY THE COMMITTEE THROUGH INFORMATION
RECEIVED FROM SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

To gain further information about Hutterite public schools, the Committee sent the questionnaire shown below to twenty-five Superintendents who had a total of 40 colony schools in their areas. Replies were consolidated in those cases where two or more schools were in a division.

CHART NO. 6.

QUESTIONNAIRE

QUESTION NO. 1. How does the average progress and scholarship of your Hutterite pupils compare with that of children attending your centralized schools?

ANSWER Hutterite pupils were up to two grades retarded in nineteen divisions. In two cases achievement was reported good. Grades I, II and III pupils were reported equal to divisional pupils in three cases. Potential ability of Hutterite pupils was reported average or higher in six cases.

QUESTION NO. 2 Can you account for any differences noted?

- ANSWER
- 1) Pupils leave school at age fifteen in all classrooms reported.
 - 2) Two extra hours per day of instruction in German - sixteen cases.
 - 3) Adverse attitude of parents toward education - twelve cases.
 - 4) Pupils German speaking - twelve cases.
 - 5) Poor teachers - ten cases.

- 6) No audio-visual aids allowed in school - nine cases.
- 7) Pupils do not associate with public school children - nine cases.
- 8) Ungraded schools blamed in three cases.
- 9) Limited experience outside of colonies - three cases.
- 10) Poor attendance of older pupils - three cases (work pupils on farms).
- 11) Local adult indifference to everything but mathematics and reading - two cases.
- 12) Religious holidays - two cases (only two additional holidays per year).
- 13) Reading ability poor - one case.
- 14) Pupils mentally dull - one case.
- 15) Frequent teacher changes - one case.

QUESTION NO. 3

Are colony officials or members inclined to interfere with the teacher during school hours?

ANSWER

Yes - three cases.

No - fifteen cases.

Two Superintendents complained about school work being erased or covered during religious services.

QUESTION NO. 4(a)

Would you consider the conditions under which your teachers of Hutterite schools live, to be undesirable? Please explain.

ANSWER

Desirable - four cases.

Undesirable - twelve cases.

Teacher lives outside of the colony - three cases.

Two Superintendents reported that the teacher is treated well in the colony.

QUESTION NO. 4(b)

Do they receive an isolation bonus and if so, what is the amount?

ANSWER

"Yes" in twenty-three cases.

Three received \$200.00 per year.

Eighteen received \$300.00 per year.

One received \$400.00 per year.

One received \$600.00 per year.



QUESTION NO. 4(c) Do you have any difficulty in attracting well qualified and capable teachers to Hutterite schools?

ANSWER

Yes - eighteen cases.
No - two cases.

One said, "No good teachers in seven years".

Another said, "I have no good teachers in

Hutterite schools".

QUESTION NO. 4(d) Are good teachers inclined to stay from year to year?

ANSWER

No - fifteen cases.

Yes - two cases.

One Superintendent said, "Only good teachers with a missionary zeal will stay".

QUESTION NO. 5(a) Do you consider integration of Hutterite pupils with those of the public schools possible within the foreseeable future?

ANSWER

Yes - three cases.

No - sixteen cases.

Remotely possible - one case.

"It is the only solution if it can be done,"
was one Superintendent's report.

QUESTION NO. 5(b) Has integration ever been attempted in your area?

ANSWER

Yes - in two cases.

No - eleven cases.

Possible in time - one case.

Discussed - nine cases.

Strongly opposed in nine cases.

OTHER REMARKS RECEIVED FROM INSPECTORS

"It would take Legislation to integrate".

"Was discussed without sign of emotion in County of Ponoka".

"Tried without success - case strongly opposed. The colony opened a private school".

"One pupil wrote Grade IX last year but failed due to poor attendance, colony pressure and background".

One Superintendent said he believed integration possible at Standoff.

"Both Hutterite and non-Hutterite children would dislike life in an integrated school" - two cases.

"Hutterite dress would cause poor relations" - one case.



The answers received, indicate that although the children as a whole appear to have average intelligence, the progress of the majority in school is far from good. The main reasons, for the situation would seem to be inferior teaching, counter-indoctrination, removing children from school at the age of fifteen and parental opposition to their being exposed to our culture. It is obvious that if the co-operation of parents and colony elders could be secured it would be comparatively easy to raise the scholarship of the pupils to a desirable level.

It is considered that the scholarship could be improved in a number of ways. The most effective method would be to integrate the Hutterite pupils into the public school system. This could result in a serious clash and might end with the Hutterites moving to another area, which would not solve the problem but merely take it out from under our noses.

A more subtle approach, aimed at ultimate integration, might be more effective. The Department of Education could make it possible to secure capable, personable teachers by providing higher salary bonuses. Indoctrination is not recommended but it is felt that Hutterite children would respond well to stimulating teachers with plenty of personality.

REMEDIAL MEASURES RECOMMENDED FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR HUTTERITE CHILDREN

It is recommended that scholarship rather than age should determine when children may leave school. If all children had to pass the Grade IX examinations prior to leaving school, the situation would improve in both public and Hutterite schools. Later on, the standard could be raised further. Exceptions could be made in the cases of mentally retarded children who would be selected by competent counsellors. These pupils could be given suitable terminal courses, drafted to meet their particular needs.



As long as schools for the exclusive use of Hutterite children are provided, they should all be placed under the jurisdiction of a highly capable School Superintendent preferably one trained in anthropology. He could also serve as official trustee which would give him greater opportunities to improve the educational standards of the pupils in his local area.

Older pupils who may not remain in school should be encouraged to continue their studies by correspondence lessons and/or night school classes, both of which should be made easily available. Adult education and suitable extension lectures would help to raise the level of education and pave the way for integration of Hutterite people with those of the dominant culture of the country.

The Committee is convinced that many of the Hutterian Brethren, both men and women, are skilled craftsmen. It is important that these skills should be passed on to the rising generation. We recommend that courses in Agriculture, Industrial Arts and Home Economics be made available as is being done in some of the public schools of Alberta.

All the facilities for offering such courses are at hand in the colony shops, kitchens, land, poultry and livestock. The head craftsmen and craftswomen of the colonies might be used as instructors. There will be objections due to their not having had professional teacher training but the whole idea might help to overcome the present opposition to our imposed educational system.

As the pupils progress, technical training centres might be opened at one or two colonies where advanced courses might be given to students showing talent.

It is possible that this training might be carried a step further. The technicians might be used to establish light industries in the colonies that would provide work for the growing population without involving the purchase of additional land.

The Committee feel that once the standard of public school education has been raised to a satisfactory level, it should be possible to look towards the establishment of schools of higher academic standing in the not too distant future.



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